

Department of Classics
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UB CLASSICS UB NEWS

**CHAIR'S REPORT:**

Xairete Philoi, Salvete Amici,

When Aeneas first stumbles upon Carthage, he marvels at the good fortune of those whose city is already largely built—o fortunati, quorum iam moenia surgunt! The Trojan hero's exclamation was on my mind when I took a somewhat less perilous journey in December 2011 to lecture in Beijing. I didn't just gape at the rising skyscrapers on my first visit to China, though I did my share of that. I also marveled at the speed with which Chinese universities are growing. My hosts at Renmin University had no classics department (at least not western classics), but were interested in building one, as were other universities in China engaged in ambitious hiring programs (adventurous alumni take note—lots of job openings for western degree holders, no Chinese necessary). So, fortunati Sinenses, right? Then I thought again: the developing cultural exchange is very promising, but at the moment (western) classics is still something of a wandering exile in China. When I returned home to Buffalo and considered how UB Classics continues to build on strong foundations, I couldn't help but think, fortunati nos!

This newsletter highlights many of the accomplishments we have seen in 2011-2012 that show classics thriving at UB. Two important themes in my first year as Dept. Chair have been developing communication with our alumni community and creating new opportunities for our students. Following on the publication of our first newsletter in 2011, we took another step forward in reaching out to our esteemed alumni with our first Alumni and Friends Reception on November 5th, 2011, where we were treated to a lecture by Emeritus Professor **Jack Peradotto** on chance and fate in Plato and other cultures. The same reception saw the creation of the James P. Neely Memorial Award. With tremendous generosity, the family of UB Classics B.A. **Jim Neely** is building an endowment

to support the education of UB Classics students who most embody Jim's tremendous intellectual drive and curiosity. We have already given out two awards for work summer 2012: one to UB Classics Ph.D. student **Kevin Roth** for his participation in two spoken Latin seminars, and another to UB Classics major **Drexel Axeloons** to support his work in the excavations of Professor **Vance Watrous** at Gournia on Crete. Congratulations to Kevin and Drexel, and many thanks to the Neely family. The department also thanks all of our alumni and friends who have contributed so generously to helping the department aid students and build our intellectual community. We had another wonderful alumni event on November 3, 2012, where UB Classics alumna Francesca D'Alessandro Behr gave a lecture on the classical education of women in the Renaissance.

Several other notable opportunities opened up this past year for our students. **Professors Malamud and McGuire** put together an enticing intersession study program in January 2012 that brought students to Rome to get first-hand experience with the monuments of antiquity. When Professors Malamud and McGuire could not travel, **Professor Ault** stepped in to ably guide the students through the Italian landscape and share his expertise in archaeology and art history. The joint Classics-Linguistics Tesseræ Project, which uses digital methods to explore literary allusions, benefited from the outstanding contributions of several UB Classics graduate and undergraduate students, and in 2012-2013 is funding two full-time Research Assistant positions for UB Ph.D. students. In May 2012, **Professor Boyd** and our graduate students drew a few thimbles' worth from their vast wells of creativity to create our first Classics Day. The event featured the spectacle of **Professors Dugan and Teegarden** being wrapped in togas; a talk show with **Dr. Asc**(lepius, who under his beard bore a striking resemblance to Ph.D. student **Mike McGlin**) providing dubious healing advice; and the goddess Fortuna (in her avatar

as Ph.D. student **Lana Radloff**) dangling the prospect of senatorial sesterces to quiz show contestants. These new activities join a number of others developed in recent years that enrich our intellectual and learning environment, from archaeological excavations, to graduate proseminars, spoken Latin activities, an Open House for high school students, and a graduate student internship position with our in-house classics journal *Arethusa*.

As we cultivate experiences for students to complement classroom instruction, we're also seeing some great successes from students themselves. Hearty congratulations to UB Classics Ph.D. **Scott Gallimore**, who was hired as a tenure-track Assistant Professor this year at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario. Congratulations are due also to graduating Classics major **Christina Caucci**, who is burnishing her skills further in the University of Pennsylvania Post-Baccalaureate Program in preparation for graduate school. Christie is among a terrific group of graduating seniors whom we will miss as they chart their paths after graduation. We send our best wishes and congratulations as well to two Ph.D. students who defended their dissertations last year, **Adam Hyatt** and **Jennifer Kendall**.

Thanks to the editorial skills of **Professor Higbie** and contributions from all quarters, you'll find much more below about the exciting work and learning going on in the Department. To keep current between newsletters, please visit the news section of our website (<http://classics.buffalo.edu>), look for us on Facebook, or just stop by. And please send news of your own doings—we'd love to hear from you!

-Neil Coffee
Associate Professor and Chair



PROFILE:
PHILIP KIERNAN

by Erin Warford

Many Classical scholars are captivated by the great monuments of Greece and Rome—the penetrating gaze of a painted face, the delicate lines of a marble statue. While he appreciates such objects, Dr. Philip Kiernan has always been more fascinated by the smaller fragments of life in the ancient world, relics of the more ordinary inhabitants of the Roman Empire. Now in his third year of teaching at UB, Dr. Kiernan’s main interests lie in small finds (particularly coins), the study of ancient religion, and the western provinces of the Roman Empire. He earned his degrees in no less than three countries—his B.A. from University of Western Ontario, an M.A. in Classical Archaeology from the University of Cincinnati, and his Ph.D. in Classical Archaeology from the Ruprecht-Karls Universität in Heidelberg, Germany.

His dissertation, “Miniature Votive Offerings in Rome’s North-west Provinces,” combined his interests in small finds and ancient religion. He traces that interest back to 1999-2000, the year he spent as an exchange student at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. “I did an independent study project on mutilated coins from votive contexts. It fascinated me how the Celtic tradition of physically damaging objects to make them acceptable to the gods continued into the first century of the

Roman period, as coin finds clearly show,” Prof. Kiernan says. “Coins and other votive offerings seem to reveal something about the religious experience of the majority of the inhabitants of the Roman Empire, not just its text writing elites.”

This interest in small finds drew Dr. Kiernan to the Roman west, where such objects have been more thoroughly recorded and studied. “The real attraction of the north-west provinces lies in the nature of the available evidence rather than some special characteristic of the region,” Prof. Kiernan says. “The tradition of classical archaeology in North America has for the most part been focused on art historical approaches to the art and architecture of Italy and Greece. This tradition is important to understanding the ancient world as well, but I wanted to pursue research that involved working directly with objects.” Prof. Kiernan continues to spend his summers in Germany, where he leads an excavation in the village of Hassloch, located in southwest Germany near Heidelberg. The project, now entering its second season, is excavating a Celtic burial mound. “The main result of our first campaign was confirmation of the hypothesis that the Hassloch burial mound is multi-period,” Prof. Kiernan says. “The earliest finds from the mound belong to the late Bronze Age (ca. 1,000 B.C.), while the latest sherds in the filling date to the late Hallstatt period (550-475 B.C.), suggesting it was used or augmented in the La Tène or possibly even Roman periods.”

During summer 2012, Prof. Kiernan worked to locate the central burial chamber as well as some secondary burials, interred after the initial burial in an attempt to associate themselves with the high-status person buried in the center. He also conducted micromorphology and geoelectric surveys with the help of Dr. David Jordan from the University of Mainz. Kali Grable, Assistant Director and Classics graduate student, worked with Roman material from

Hassloch at the Archaeological Museum in Speyer to help build up the chronological picture of the mound and its environs.

Aside from the scientific value of the excavation, Prof. Kiernan’s goal was to encourage a new generation of archaeologists through his field school, which consisted of fifteen students this year. “Participating on the Hassloch excavation and the various weekend fieldtrips is a rare opportunity for UB undergraduates,” Prof. Kiernan says. “First and foremost, Hassloch is often their first international experience, or their first experience working on an excavation. Quite apart from the archaeological techniques they learn, the excavation immerses them in a foreign culture, presenting new horizons and perspectives.”

Prof. Kiernan has enjoyed teaching both graduate and undergraduate courses at UB. He describes the undergraduates as “very enthusiastic” and “a delight to teach,” while the graduate students are “very passionate about their subject” and “really easy to work with.” He has taught undergraduate and graduate classes on topics such as Roman history, sculpture, religion, numismatics, and Roman Germany. “At the undergraduate level, I developed a new course this semester on Roman Religion that was really a blast to teach,” Prof. Kiernan says. “Though all of my graduate seminars have been enjoyable, I felt the seminar I gave on Latin Epigraphy in Spring 2011 was perhaps the most interactive, and certainly the seminar in which I felt I learned the most myself.”

Prof. Kiernan is also currently working on a book project about pagan idols. “Many scholars have argued that there is no functional difference in the Graeco-Roman world between decorative and votive statues, and central cult images,” he says. “Using Rome’s western provinces as a case study, this book project traces the adoption, use and destruction of cult images in the Roman imperial period.”

In between teaching and research, he has also found time to enjoy Buffalo and pursue a few hobbies. “I enjoy cycling and swimming when I get the chance, and the former has helped me get to know Buffalo a little better. Recently, I also re-started an old hobby – fencing – at the Les Amis Fencing Club,” Prof. Kiernan says. “Yes, it’s true, classics professors tend to have very ‘nerdy’ hobbies as well.”



**PROFILE:
ROGER WOODARD**

by Jessica Richardi

Prof. Woodard holds two positions at UB: he is the Andrew van Vranken Raymond Professor of Classics and Professor of Linguistics. He earned his M.Div. at Southeastern Seminary at Wake Forest in 1979 and his Ph.D. in classics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1986. When asked about his dissertation research on reflexive pronouns in ancient Greek, Dr. Woodard immediately (and fondly) recalls his frequent use of a massive room-sized computer. This monster machine provided him with a sizeable and a searchable database of ancient texts. At Johns Hopkins University, where he held an assistant professorship from 1988-1991,

Prof. Woodard was charged with teaching an evening continuing-education course for working adults. The subject of the course was at his discretion. What topic might enthrall his students? he wondered. Not Greek dialects, his then-greatest passion. What about comparative religion? Prof. Woodard began to familiarize himself with the work of Georges Dumezil, whose theories provided him with an easy-to-grasp pedagogical approach. Thus began Prof. Woodard’s exploration of comparative Indo-European religion.

Prof. Woodard has taught dozens of courses at various universities. Asked to name his favorite, his answer is Myth and Religion in the Ancient World, which he has been teaching at UB for the past 13 years. Prof. Woodard is extremely gratified at his students’ positive response to the material. Anyone who has attended one of his lectures is sure to know why undergraduates enjoy this course so much: Prof. Woodard holds his students’ attention with his commanding presence and his powerful voice, which reaches the farthest corners of the auditorium without the use of a microphone.

During the winter/spring semester of 2012, Prof. Woodard lived in Rome as a resident of the American Academy. He spent much of his time there on his research into the figure of Bellerophon. Prof. Woodard presented a paper this February at L’Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, entitled “Bellerophon and Feminine Aggression: the Conjunction of Diachrony and Synchrony in Myth and Cult,” in which he argues that Bellerophon is a rare survival of an Indo-European motif influenced by Near Eastern traditions.

Currently, Prof. Woodard is working on a chapter in the forthcoming Cambridge History of Linguistics, entitled “Greek and Greco-Roman Linguistic Thought.” In this piece, he explores ancient Greek conceptualization of language and their perception

of language categories. Prof. Woodard is also completing work on a fascinating monograph about the trauma suffered by ancient warriors in combat. Upon their return home, they become dysfunctional: unable to relinquish their rage, they become a threat or isolate themselves to protect their community.



**PROFILE:
DON MCGUIRE**

by: Mike McGlin

After meeting Professor Don McGuire for the first time, it is hard to walk away from conversation without the conviction that he loves his job. Prof. McGuire’s rich experience of the classical world through his academic research, through leading student tours in the classical world, and through his enthusiasm about classical topics in lecture is readily conveyed.

Even before entering Brown University as an undergraduate, Prof. McGuire had already studied Latin and Greek for several years and had a strong interest in the Classics. Brown wrote a letter offering him admission in Latin, one of seven letters in Latin sent out that year. After graduating from Brown with a degree in Classics, Prof. McGuire attended Cornell University where he received his PhD in 1985. He afterwards accepted a position in the Classics Dept. at USC with his wife, Prof. Martha Malamud, until 1992, when they both



moved back east and began their tenure at UB.

Prof. McGuire's interests are wide ranging and they are reflected in the courses he teaches and the extracurricular activities he leads. His primary interest lies in imperial Latin literature—specifically epic—while his other interests include architecture, political propaganda, and classical reception. He taught courses in the fall that continue his practice of making material from the classical world accessible to an undergraduate audience. In addition to teaching Introduction to World Civilizations this past fall, he also taught a course entitled "Classics Goes to the Movies!" which included a fourteen-part film series and lectures in which students discussed modern cinematic reception of the classical world.

Prof. McGuire has a strong commitment to undergraduates. His dual position as professor and undergraduate programs administrator in the Dean's office allows him to influence undergraduate experiences at UB in several different ways. He helps to structure undergraduate experiences through class work and programming while his own courses allow him to interact with students on a more personal level. Prof. McGuire himself says that great professors and engaging coursework were crucial to his undergraduate and graduate experience. He also credits his father who was a painting instructor for encouraging him to attend graduate school. Prof. McGuire brings enthusiasm and patience to the classroom and a firm conviction in the abilities of undergraduate students.

FACULTY NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS

Brad Ault has handed over his duties as DUS to Carolyn Higbie. He held the position for over nine years. In May 2012, he contributed a paper, "Haus und Stadt im

klassischen Griechenland: Its Theoretical Impact Twenty-five Years On," for Theory in (Ancient) Greek Archaeology (TiGA), Ann Arbor, Michigan. He also collaborated with **Steve Dyson** in organizing a session, Bridging the Great Divide, for Buffalo TAG 2012, International Meeting of the Theoretical Archaeology Group. With **Don McGuire**, he has run three Winter Intercession Study-Abroad Program classes: Turkey in 2010-11 (with 6 students), Italy in 2011-12 (with 18 students), and a return trip to Italy in 2012-13 with 15 students.

Tom Barry had bypass heart surgery in March, but after only two weeks of recovery was back in the classroom.

Timothy Boyd traveled to Exeter, England, in April 2012 for the Classical Association annual conference, where he gave a paper, "All the King's Horses: Reconstructing Rhapsodic Performance and the Commedia dell'Arte." He published an essay in the most recent volume of *Oral Tradition*, "Memory on Canvas: Commedia dell'Arte as a Model for Homeric Performance."

Neil Coffee was awarded a \$50,000 NEH Office of Digital Humanities Start-Up Grant for 2012-2013 work on his Tesseræ Project. Funding is being used to support two graduate Research Assistants at UB and one at the partner institution University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. He also founded the Digital Classics Association with colleagues from Furman, FSU, King's College (London), and Tufts. The inaugural conference of the association will be held in Buffalo, April 5-6, 2013. Recent articles include "Active Latin: quo tendimus?" *Classical World* 105 (2012) and "Caesar Chrematopoiös," *Classical Journal* 106 (2011).

John Dugan presented his paper, "Ambiguous Legacies: the Causa Curiana as mise en abyme in Cicero's Brutus," at Brock University and at the University of Washington. In June 2012, he travelled to Italy to participate in an NEH Seminar,

"The Legacy of Ancient Italy: the Etruscan and Early Roman City."

Carolyn Higbie very much enjoyed being a Fellow at the Buffalo Humanities Institute in Fall 2011, when she made good progress on her book about ancient collecting and fakes. She continued to serve on the Committee for Admissions and Fellowships for the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. She gave a lecture-demonstration to the Buffalo Dante Society on ancient music in October. In April 2012, she also spoke at the Classical Association annual conference in Exeter; her paper was entitled "From Votary to Fakery: Collecting in the Ancient World." She also published an essay, "Cicero the Homerist," in the most recent volume of *Oral Tradition*.

Philip Kiernan gave a paper, "The excavation of a prehistorical burial mound in Hassloch, Germany," for the Houghton Chapter of the New York Archaeological Association in Sept. 2011. His presentation for the conference, The Afterlife of Roman Sculpture II, Aarhus University, Denmark, "The Afterlife of Cult Images in Roman Gaul and Germany," will be published in the proceedings. In summer 2012 he continued the field school at Hassloch.

Martha Malamud has served as DGS this year. In May 2012, she gave a lecture at UCLA, "Medea Goes to Africa," a longer version of which is forthcoming in the journal *Ramus* as "Double, Double: Two African Medeas." Her book, *The Origin of Sin: Prudentius' Hamartigenia*, was published in November 2012 by Cornell University Press.

Don McGuire taught a new class, "Classics Goes to the Movies!" in fall 2011. It began with "Cabiria," a silent cinema classic about the Roman republic and ended with contemporary hits were "300," "Troy," and "Gladiator." Films were screened Sunday evenings in the Student Union; attendance was free and open to the public. He plans

to offer the class again, so more Classics films will be coming to UB.

David Teegarden signed a contract with Princeton University Press to publish his book *Death to Tyrants! Ancient Greek Democracy and the Struggle against Tyranny*. He also participated in a conference – “Constitutionalism, Ancient and Modern” – organized by the Floersheimer Center for Constitutional Democracy (Cardozo Law School). An expanded version of his paper (“Tyrant-Killing Legislation and the Political Foundation of Ancient Greek Democracy”) will be published in the *Cardozo Law Review*. His long paper, “The Oath of Demophantos, Mobilization, and the Preservation of the Athenian Democracy,” was published in September, 2012 in *Hesperia*.

Roger Woodard spent the spring 2012 semester on leave at the American Academy in Rome, where he was a Scholar in Residence. During June 2012 he was a Visiting Scholar at the Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte in Berlin and in July he returned to the American Academy in Rome. His monograph, *Myth and Ritual for the Warrior in Roman and Indo-European Antiquity*, was published this November by Cambridge University Press.

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS



James Artz has spent the past year in Athens, where he helped to supervise

excavations in the Athenian agora and supervised the digital annotation of field notebooks, used to record the excavation data from the Athenian agora since 1931. His review of Emanuele Greco’s *Topografia di Atene. Sviluppo urbano e monumenti dalle origini al III secolo d.C. Tomo I: Acropoli, Aeropago, tra Acropoli e Prnice* has been published in *Classical Review*. He published an article, “Technological Choice and Change in the Southwest Bath in the Athenian Agora,” in *Chronika* vol. 2, the IEMA Graduate Student Journal. In May this year, he and Leslie Feldballe (B.A. 2008, M.A. 2011) were married.

Meagan Ayer defended her dissertation, “The Ones that Got Away: Refugees in Classical and Hellenistic Greece,” at the end of the summer. In Fall 2011 she taught at Canisius College. She gave papers drawn from her dissertation at a number of conferences, including the Classical Association of Canada and the Waterloo Institute for Hellenistic Studies.

Massimo Betello has had an extremely busy 2011-2012 as the Resident Instructor at the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome. He taught an intermediate Latin course and collaborated with three other faculty on a course called “The Ancient City” which draws on archaeological sites, museums, and texts to study Roman history in all its facets. In Fall 2012, Massimo will teach Roman history and Latin literature at John Cabot University in Rome.

Krishni Burns is co-editing a book with **Will Duffy** (Ph.D. 2011), *Classical Women in Modern Media*, an examination of modern adaptations of the women of ancient myth and history; Cambridge Scholars Publishing will publish it. She won one of the UB Gender Institute’s Disserta-

tion Fellowships for 2012-2013 and ran a workshop on classroom management at CAMWS, as a member of the Graduate

Student Issues Committee. She presented papers at CAMWS 2012, TAG 2012, and the Feminism and Classics IV conference at Brock University.

Ryan Hughes spent his summer 2012 at work in Ontario, as a Junior Field Director with Archaeological Research Associates Inc.

Joey Williams spent 2011-2012 in Switzerland. This past summer, he led the excavation at Caladinho, Portugal, for a third season; students from UB and other universities participated in the work. He also hosted a conference, “The Land-



scapes of Romanization: Fortifications and Occupation of Territory, 2nd century B.C. to 1st century A.D.” Fall 2012, he returned to Tucson, AZ, to begin a new job as instructor of classics and rhetoric at the BASIS schools.

Graduate students from the Classics and Linguistics Depts. organized a study group to investigate various languages, including Sanskrit, Old Irish, and Old English. They are seeking new members to increase their range of knowledge and to improve their discussions. If you are interested, please e-mail **Kevin Roth** (kevinrot@buffalo.edu). (continued on next page)



Sarah Jacobson is teaching Latin at the Nichols School in Buffalo and is discovering not only the joys of teaching high school students but also the difficulties in finding the time during the day to get the oil changed in her car, among many mundane obligations.

Katie Lamberto presented a paper, "Sound Effects: Aural Aspects of the Bacchae," at CAMWS.

Rhodora Vennarucci has returned from a year in Arkansas. This fall she will be an adjunct professor at the University of Rochester.

ALUMNI UPDATE

Will Duffy (Ph.D. 2011) will be a Visiting Instructor at UT San Antonio for a second year.

Scott Gallimore (Ph.D. 2011) was appointed to a tenure-track position at Wilfred Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario.

IN MEMORIAM

Robert K. Sherk (1920-2012), **Professor Emeritus**, passed away on July 8, 2012. He taught in the Classics Dept. at UB for many years, from 1962 until his retirement in 1990. For affectionate stories about him, please visit <http://www.classics.buffalo.edu>.

IEMA NEWS

James Osborne was the 5th IEMA post-doctoral fellow. He organized a conference, *Approaching Monumentality in the Archaeological Record*, which brought twenty scholars from around the world to UB this spring. This fall he is a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Near Eastern

Studies in the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, Johns Hopkins University.

William Meyer is the sixth IEMA post-doctoral fellow. His conference is entitled *Engendering Landscapes and Landscape Gender*.

In May 2012, the Theoretical Archaeology Group held its annual meeting at UB.

DISSERTATIONS DEFENDED 2011-2012:

Adam Hyatt
Jennifer Kendall

DEFENDED 2012-2013: **Meagan Ayer**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Updated regularly at http://www.classics.buffalo.edu/events/classics_calendar/

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